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**Red
eye**

FRESH AS FRESCO

SAVEMONEY RAPPER BRIAN FRESCO
IS LETTING HIS CREATIVITY FLOW 8-9

Thursday
DECEMBER 1, 2016

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A Chicago Tribune
publication



When your date is always late **4** Bulls off to a good start **6** Feel-good news at Grace **10**

BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@REDEYECCHICAGO.COM » GET MORE SPONTANEOUS EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECCHICAGO.COM

EAT

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DRINK

DO

LOL TOLHURST BOOK READING

The Commons Club 203 N. Wabash Ave. 312-940-4747

FREE The founding member of The Cure reads from his new autobiography "Cured: The Tale of Two Imaginary Boys," which covers his time with the band and his struggles with alcoholism. A DJ set with Nine Inch Nails drummer Martin Atkins follows. 7 p.m.

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3-DAY FORECAST



THURSDAY

42 33
December!



FRIDAY

40 30
Little sunny



SATURDAY

37 31
Getting cold

HAPPY HOUR OF THE DAY

Madison Hall (71 E. Madison St. 312-683-9586) offers free beard shaves and pours from Koval Distillery from 5-7 p.m.

Hyde Park residents enjoy the mild weather in early November.
ADEL URIBE/TRIBUNE

big picture

FALL FTW

CHICAGO BASKED IN UNUSUALLY WARM, SUNNY NOVEMBER

By Elissa Cherney | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Friends Melissa Edmonds and Brandon Rifkin laced up their sneakers and stretched Tuesday before setting out on a lunchtime jog through Millennium Park, soaking up the clear, sunny day that had many others shedding their coats.

"We are trying to take advantage of it while we can," said Edmonds, 27. Once the snow falls and temperatures dip below 45 degrees, she said she'll head to an indoor gym instead.

But that was a distant thought for the pair on a day that shined as a bright example of the weather that has spoiled Chicagoans this autumn: sunny and hitting 57 degrees, a high for the month.

Indeed, November 2016 will rank among the sunniest and warmest Novembers in recent years, according to local meteorologists.

In the past week, every day has brought above-normal temperatures. With an average temperature of 47 degrees, this November clocks in as the fourth warmest in recent history behind the record of 50 degrees set in 1931.

This is also the fourth warmest meteorological fall—September through November

—mirroring the yearlong trend of higher-than-average temperatures in 12 of the past 14 months, WGN-TV meteorologist Tom Skilling said. Pointing to global warming, Skilling said the phenomenon doesn't prevent cold spells from happening too.

"We know this has been a drier-than-average autumn, and it's been a warmer-than-average autumn up to this point," Skilling said. "The generous sunshine allocation we've seen is probably the greatest contributor to the warmer weather."

In November, the sun beamed unobstructed by clouds for an average of 60 percent of daylight hours. Though the month was initially on track to break the record for sunniest November, the open, blue skies gave way to clouds as it drew to a close, reducing the percentage of sunny minutes per day, according to retired meteorologist Frank Wachowski.

Wachowski, who now volunteers for the National Weather Service in Chicago, logs the daily minutes of sunlight from his home near Midway Airport. The weather service stopped measuring sunlight several years ago, Wachowski said, so it relies on him for measurements.

"We started off November very sunny—we

were way up there at 87 percent, 88 percent," Wachowski said earlier this week. "Now that we got into this new regime, the last couple days we are down to 62 percent."

The sunniest November came in 1999, when the city was naturally illuminated 73 percent of daylight hours. The average is 42 percent.

Snowfall has also stalled so far. By this time last year, Skilling said, Chicago had already logged 11.2 inches of snow, and the northwest suburbs saw over 20 inches. The area will get its first taste of winter Sunday with the season's first "sticking snow," Skilling said. Normally the first snow flurries grace Chicago by Halloween, but they came three weeks late this year, he said.

It's unclear how long the tempered temperatures will last once meteorological winter begins Thursday. Wednesday was expected to close out November with a high near 43 degrees and a chance of snow flurries or rain overnight.

Amy Seeley, a meteorologist at the weather service in Chicago, said the average temperature in December is 27.7 degrees. Projections show there is an equal chance the weather will be above, below or near normal this winter in northwestern Illinois and northwest Indiana,

Seeley said.

Some meteorologists, such as Wachowski, look at the snow in Siberia as an indicator for how rough a winter will be.

"The jury is out on that one," he said. "The thing that scares me is that in Siberia there's been a lot of snow on the ground in Europe earlier than normal ... so you have a buildup of cold air, and eventually it comes down to the U.S., so it's quite possible we could see a snowier winter and a colder one."

Skilling, however, predicted a warmer, less-snowy-than-average winter. Stressing that seasonal forecasts are subject to change, he said his data show a warmer-than-average winter is more likely to follow a warmer-than-average autumn and summer.

"Don't panic yet," he said. "Just because you've had a hot summer doesn't mean the other shoe drops in winter. In the majority of occasions ... the winter takes on the characteristics of the summer that preceded it."

But perhaps Tinley Park resident Dawn Neuman, who was out walking with her 2-year-old niece, offered the best advice.

"It's Chicago," so be prepared for the unpredictable, she said. "Nothing surprises me anymore."

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threesome

3 PERSPECTIVES ON ONE RELATIONSHIP QUESTION

Welcome to “Threesome.” Each week, we’ll take a look at a relationship question from the public and have three panelists give their insights. Have a question to ask? Shoot it over to us on Twitter at [@redeyechicago](https://twitter.com/redeyechicago) or on our Facebook page. If it’s a little more private, feel free to email it to redeye@redeyechicago.com with the word “Threesome” in the subject line.

My significant other is constantly late for everything. At first I didn’t mind, but it really started to bug me. I just feel like it’s disrespectful to agree upon a time and just show up late, especially when it’s so constant. When I bring it up, the reply is something along the lines of “I’m just always late and I don’t like to rush. Deal with it.” Is there a better way to let my SO know that I really don’t like waiting for a half-hour at a time? Am I being too whiney? —Question via Reddit, edited for length



Michelle Lopez
Married, 32

» RedEye digital editor
» @michelleglopez

You have every right to be fed up with this. We all know someone who unapologetically lives this late AF lifestyle. It is super frustrating that they don’t see this as a blatant disregard for your time. Saying “deal with it” is a pretty crummy way of actually dealing with this issue. No one likes to rush before heading out. It’s time for them to grow up and

manage their time better. If your SO knows it’s going to take them over an hour to get ready, then they should plan accordingly. If they still refuse to change, well, then you can always adapt. Factor those 30 minutes into your arrival time. If your date is at 7 p.m., just tell yourself it’s at 7:30 p.m. Maybe one of those times, your SO will actually show up on time, and they’ll be the one to wait and see that it’s not so fun to wait around.



Jake Newton
In a relationship, 24

» RedEye designer
» @jnewt

One of the few (lol jk) blessings of living with my girlfriend is knowing her routines. It can take anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours (give or take a few minutes for her to check her Instagram feed) once she gets in the shower until the time we’re walking out the door. She is someone who would relate to the “I don’t like to rush” sentiment.

I am someone who is always early. If I am not on schedule, I’ll figure out a way to make up the time. In that dynamic, there’s a point where you have to accept the fact that your significant other is not as mindful about time as you might be. That being said, if your person is perpetually late, it shows a lack of respect for your own schedule, and that’s not acceptable in any relationship. If that’s the case, don’t even bother buying them a watch. Buy yourself a new pair of shoes ‘cuz, honey, you should be single!



Shelby Lynn Bostedt
Single, 23

» RedEye digital content coordinator
» @shelbielbostedt

It all starts with figuring out why your SO being late bothers you. If it’s literally just annoying that they’re late, my first piece of advice would be to tell them that everything is 30 minutes earlier than it actually is, but that doesn’t fix the underlying issue of you feeling upset. If it bothers you for other reasons, I would maybe explain to your SO that it’s less about

being on time and more about them not respecting YOUR time. When it’s less about timeliness and more about how it makes you feel, they can’t argue that it isn’t a problem.



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CONTACT US
Newsroom: 312-222-4970
redeye@redeyechicago.com

News:
news@redeyechicago.com
Entertainment:
features@redeyechicago.com
Advertising: 312-527-8077
advertisingredeye@tronc.com
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sports

Dwyane Wade (left) and Jimmy Butler AP

LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS, THE BULLS CERTAINLY SEEM LIKE THEY'RE FOR REAL

BETTER THAN ADVERTISED?

By K.C. Johnson | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Most NBA prognosticators figured the Bulls at this point would be hovering near .500 and battling for the final Eastern Conference play-off spot.

Obviously, plenty of basketball remains, and injuries always can disrupt even the most positive vibes. But several statistical indicators point to the Bulls' start—they were third in the East entering Wednesday—as being legitimate.

As of Wednesday morning, the Bulls ranked fourth behind the Warriors, Clippers and Cavaliers in average point differential at plus-6.3. They were sixth in offensive rating, scoring 110.7 points per 100 possessions, and eighth in defensive rating, allowing 104.1 points per 100 possessions.

All of this is despite the Bulls playing 11 of their 17 games on the road, including Wednesday's matchup against the Lakers at the United Center.

"I don't like comparing players and teams," Jimmy Butler said. "I just like doing what we do—focus in on us. It's for the 'right now.' What we're doing right now is good enough to

win games, and we can still get better."

Coach Fred Hoiberg refused to express any vindication over such a strong start flying in the face of middling expectations. But he expressed pleasure with the team's competitive mindset, which he said was evident from the first day of camp.

"I love their approach to practice," Hoiberg said. "We may have had our best shootaround of the year in Philadelphia on the last day of a six-game road trip. That generally doesn't happen. That last game, you're just trying to find a way to get through it. But our guys were locked in, came out with the right approach.

"That's what it's all about, setting the tone early in games. We've done that for the most part this season."

The Bulls have had multiple games in which they've built double-digit, fourth-quarter leads. Then there is the nuance behind the numbers, the intangibles.

This team's chemistry has been palpable all season. Butler has brought a football almost everywhere for players and coaches to throw around after practice. Dwyane Wade organized a private movie screening in Salt Lake

City. Butler organized a trip to Denver's Escape Room, a physical and mental adventure game room based on teamwork.

"These guys genuinely like each other," Hoiberg said. "And that certainly helps when you're on the floor and care for your teammates like they do."

Indeed, team dinners are more common than not on the road.

"We're enjoying playing together," Wade said. "We're having fun. On the court, you have training camp and practice to understand what Coach is trying to do. But I feel like off the court helps that trust on the floor, and we've done that. We have a great locker room."

This has manifested itself most in the Bulls' response to their rough patches. They didn't let a three-game losing streak affect them. They responded to emotional losses to the Clippers and Nuggets with bounce-back victories.

"I love the way we're competing, and there's still room to grow, as most teams have with this many new faces," Hoiberg said. "But the way they've bought in and the togetherness—they don't care who gets the credit.

"When you have that type of chemistry that

See, it's not so bad

The Bulls went 4-2 on their annual November "circus trip" this season, a record fans will take in a heartbeat. Though even if they had plummeted, it would not have spelled doom as far as reaching the playoffs is concerned. Here's how the Bulls have shaped up after the trip this decade.

Season	"Circus trip" record	Finished
2015-16	2-2	42-40 MISSED PLAYOFFS
2014-15	4-3	50-32 LOST IN SECOND ROUND
2013-14	1-5	48-34 LOST IN FIRST ROUND
2012-13	2-3	45-37 LOST IN SECOND ROUND
2010-11	4-3	62-20 LOST IN EASTERN FINALS
2009-10	1-5	41-41 LOST IN FIRST ROUND

NOTE: THE 2011-12 NBA SEASON DID NOT BEGIN UNTIL DECEMBER BECAUSE OF A LABOR DISPUTE.

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music

‘Casanova’ Supernova

Chicago rapper Brian Fresco is hungry for more after excellent tape ‘Casanova’

By Josh Terry | REDEYE

Tucked east of downtown’s tourist-heavy and bustling Magnificent Mile is Seneca Playlot Park. Sandwiched between the Ritz Carlton and the Museum of Contemporary Art, the park is easy to miss, but to rapper Brian Fresco, who chose the spot for his interview with RedEye, this tiny park is crucial to the formation of Chicago music collective Savemoney.

“There were a lot of memories that happened here that pioneered the bond between most of Savemoney,” Fresco tells RedEye. “Between this, Oak Street Beach and Chicago Avenue in front of the McDonald’s, this is the park where we would come to sit and talk crazy to each other, rap, beatbox, freestyle, smoke and drink. It was a secluded place for us in high school.”

For Fresco, the 23-year-old Savemoney founding member, that safe space was formative to the man and artist he is today. Fresh off the release of his excellent 2016 mixtape “Casanova,” a project that goes toe-to-toe with Chicago’s best hip-hop releases of the year, Fresco’s ready for whatever is next. In an artistic community that includes the happy gospel of Chance the Rapper, the unrelentingly justice-minded Vic Mensa, the spit-fire rapping of Joey Purp or the party-starting dance fusion of Towkio, Fresco’s music is harder to pin down, but “Casanova” proves he is finding his lane.

Born Brian Allen, the Bronzeville-based Fresco split his childhood living at the neighborhood’s now-demolished Ida B. Wells and the Near South Side’s Harold Ickes projects. He remembers, “Being a kid in the projects and having to go through the things that you go through, whether it’s having to protect yourself or just something as simple as obtaining some money to buy ice cream, I got to see things that kids normally

LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PORTRAITS

wouldn't see."

He discovered music when he was in fourth grade at Beasley Academic Center, where he and his classmate (who would later become Savemoney rapper Kami) obsessed over Eminem's 2002 album "The Eminem Show." "That album is the reason I started rapping," Fresco claims. "Back then, I would listen to a lot of my old school R&B things because of my parents. When they'd have their friends over, I'd be peeking out of my room when I'm not supposed to be just to hear the music."

It was through Kami that he was introduced to what would become Savemoney. "Meeting guys like Joey, Kami, Vic and Chance, they showed me that it was bigger, that Chicago itself is bigger than just my small neighborhood. It's prettier girls, it's more fun parties, it's safer parties," Fresco said of his high school friends.

They would meet downtown because pretty much everyone went to different high schools: Chance the Rapper at Jones College Prep, Towkio at Lane Tech and Fresco at Simeon. As they'd hang out more, they'd begin to hone their musical abilities and follow their artistic curiosities. Fresco says, "The safer environments like the one I'm sitting in right now was a place that kind of plucked me out of my box. I was kind of stuck in between project to project, and I broke out of it by being downtown and being a part of Savemoney."

"Meeting like-minded individuals where everybody was kind of creative and had their own type of vision and a different outlook on Chicago itself was surreal for me," Fresco adds. "When people started taking notice of our music, it's what made us start taking it seriously. At first, during freshman or sophomore [year], we'd just freestyle and beatbox, something fun to do after school to pass time."

His other passion in high school was sports, playing football and even getting an offer from Wisconsin to play college ball, but he knew music was his true calling: "From crowdsurfing at a Kids These Days show and then coming to school and having to go to practice, it didn't add up. Music was more fun," he says. With Vic Mensa reaching initial success with Kids These Days and Chance the Rapper raising hype with 2012's "10 Day" tape, more and more eyes were on Savemoney.

After high school, Fresco briefly attended college at Middle Tennessee State University but knew he had to go back to Chicago to pursue music. He explains, "I had a talk with Kami and then later Vic. They told me, 'If we're serious and you're serious about music, you gotta be back in Chicago.'" So Fresco told his mom he was coming back after a year of school and went back to Chicago to work on what would become his debut mixtape, 2013's "Mafioso." That tape's namesake, as Fresco explains, "is a gangster with mind elevation," adding with a chuckle, "At that point in my life, I was watching way too many 'Goodfellas' and 'Scarface' movies." With tracks like



the wordplay-heavy "Peace of Mind" and Savemoney classic "Steamer," a posse cut that boasted Towkio, Kami, Vic Mensa and Chance the Rapper showed immense promise and still holds up.

Following "Mafioso," which was received favorably in the shadow of Chance the Rapper's 2013 tape "Acid Rap," Fresco's life hit a series of curveballs. "Those two years [after 'Mafioso'] were like a patch of me growing up. I had a kid, I was dealing with moving out of my parents' house and almost falling back into the street life too heavy. I just had to get my focus on straight," Fresco says. When things were looking bleak, he received a call to collaborate from prominent local rapper Tree, which became 2014's EP "Soulmoney." "I thank Tree to this day. He re-sparked that creative energy in me," Fresco says.

Though the demands of providing for his family were still there, he made a decision to continue to focus just on music, writing songs that would end up on his follow-up tape "Casanova." "Dandelion," which on the mixtape is a near-eight minute epic of lush live pianos (courtesy of executive producer Trevor Welch) and emotional openness, was actually the first song he wrote. "I was just overwhelmed with my life, and I just let it all come through in the song," he explains of the lines that are about running from his problems, being tired of hustling and having to write artist emails in the third person to make it seem like he had a manager. With all that in his mind, Fresco went for it: "I asked myself, how about I just let all of my creative juices go and make a song that's eight minutes? What's stopping me?" The result is one of the year's most ambitious

"Meeting guys like Joey, Kami, Vic and Chance, they showed me that it was bigger, that Chicago itself is bigger than just my small neighborhood. It's prettier girls, it's more fun parties, it's safer parties. ... The safer environments like the one I'm sitting in right now was a place that kind of plucked me out of my box. I was kind of stuck in between project to project, and I broke out of it by being downtown and being a part of Savemoney."

—**Brian Fresco**, Chicago rapper

and successful Chicago songs.

While "Dandelion" is the project's centerpiece, the rest of "Casanova" is just as rewarding. If you're unfamiliar with Fresco, "Higher," his incredibly danceable lead single with Chance the Rapper, is one you may have heard. A low-key contender for Chicago's song of the summer, the track features pulsating synths, an earworm hook and production from Canadian electronic duo Blue Hawaii. It currently sits at over 600,000 plays on Soundcloud. Other jams include rave-up "Bussin," the syrupy "Call" and the gospel-infused "Golden."

If every Savemoney artist has a type, Fresco's the utility player: He can do everything. "I just wanted to capture the versatility and diverse taste. When I was a kid, I'd be in the projects with my Walkman where I'd have both 50 Cent and Nirvana CDs—I like everything," Fresco says.

In a year when multiple Savemoney members are carving their niches in mainstream music, with Chance the Rapper continuing his dominance as the most successful independent rapper, Vic Mensa finding his calling as an avatar for social justice and Joey Purp proving why he's one of the hottest new rappers in the world, Fresco doesn't feel the need to catch up. "It's not a race. Everyone is talented in their own way. I have my own lane and wave. We're all friends."

Plus, Fresco's not stopping with "Casanova." Already at work with new stuff, he's feeling better than ever. "I feel like I might give people a few projects in 2017. The creative zone I'm in is really crazy," he says.

If "Casanova" is just a taste of what's to come, nothing's stopping Fresco.

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Michel Escoffier inducts Curtis Duffy into Disciples d'Escoffier as Ruth Snider (left) and Sonat Birnecker (center) look on.

IN GOOD GRACE

If you watched 'For Grace' on Netflix, this news will give you all the feels

By Morgan Olsen | REDEYE

You might remember hearing about a documentary called "For Grace" that debuted on Netflix earlier this year. It chronicles Chicago chef Curtis Duffy's journey to open Grace, his Michelin three-star restaurant located in the West Loop. If you haven't seen it, I'll give you a pass to return to this article later, and I'd encourage you to give the award-winning doc by Chicago filmmakers Kevin Pang and Mark Helenowski a spin. (Full disclosure: Pang is a former Chicago Tribune employee.)

Now that we're all on the same page, here's something that should make you smile. Last week, Duffy was inducted into the Escoffier School of Culinary Arts' hall of fame, Disciples d'Escoffier. And while the honor sounds very high-brow and supremely cheffy, you should know this: The renowned culinary school, which has a focus on farm-to-table fare, also announced a partnership with Duffy to inspire budding chefs through presentations given in home economics classes in Chicago high schools. Additionally, they revealed a \$25,000 scholarship program in the chef's name.

But Duffy wasn't the only inductee that night. Along with Robert and Sonat Birnecker, the founders and owners of Koval Distillery, Duffy's former teacher Ruth Snider was also inducted into the culinary hall of fame for her outstanding work as an educator. This



Curtis Duffy

brings us back to the movie.

Duffy got his first taste of cooking in a mandatory sixth grade home economics class under Snider's thoughtful instruction. At the time, he was rebellious and angsty, dealing with problems at home behind the scenes. But Snider saw potential. Duffy took the class again in seventh grade and for a third time in eighth grade, when it was no longer required. The two remained close, and when Duffy's parents died in a tragic murder-suicide, Snider offered a support system. Since then, the two have remained lifelong friends.

Last week, as Duffy and Snider stood at the back of his famed restaurant receiving their awards and being inducted into the culinary hall of fame, it was a humble reminder that it's not always about the names on a chef's resume, something we tend to weigh quite heavily in the food world. And though Snider will never take an ounce of credit for Duffy's success (really, she was a little uncertain about being inducted that night), we should never discount the power of early education and the willingness of teachers to go above and beyond for their students.

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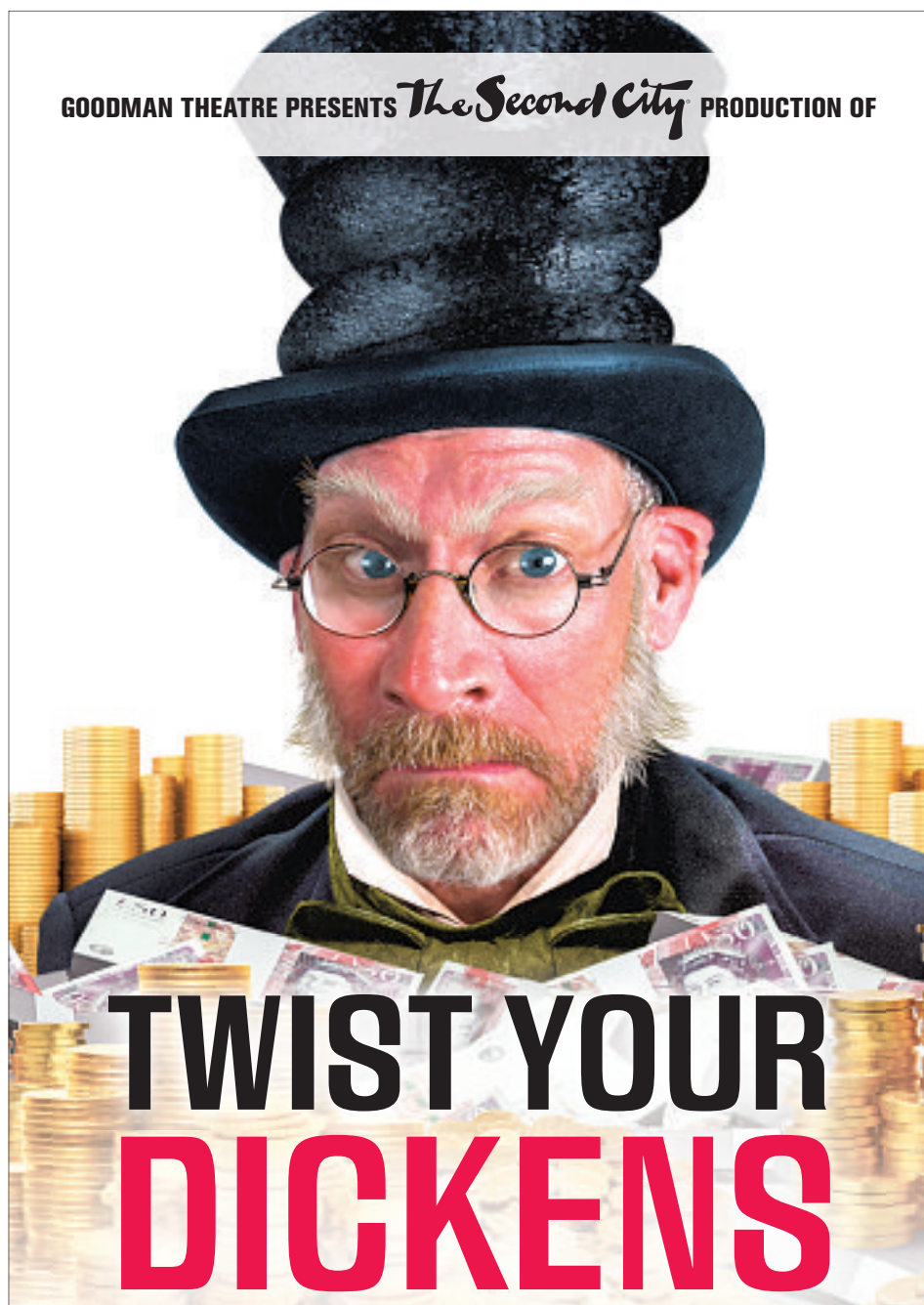


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'The Butcracker: A Nutcracker Burlesque'

set the scene

5 CHICAGO SHOWS TO SEE THIS WEEK

By **Morgan Olsen** | REDEYE

Step away from the Netflix marathon and find your way into one of these local theaters for a belly laugh this week. Your guide to Chicago's affordable and under-the-radar comedy scene awaits.

THURSDAY

It's a Nick & Gabe Christmas Party
UP Comedy Club
230 W. North Ave. 312-662-4562

Bring on the holly jolly feels at the opening night of the comedic duo's holiday celebration, which promises to have you singing along to your favorite timely tunes. 10:30 p.m. \$12-\$17. Tickets: upcomedyclub.com

FRIDAY

The Butcracker: A Nutcracker Burlesque
Uptown Underground
4707 N. Broadway 773-867-1946

Combining burlesque, drag, magic, ballet and more, this one-night-only variety show from Tom Boi Theatricals and The Cuckoo's Theater Project remixes the holiday classic. 8 p.m. \$25-\$30. Tickets: thebutcrackerburlesque.com

SATURDAY

Laughing Stock: The Chicago Comedy Music Festival
The Elbo Room
2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549

The fifth annual two-day fest packs in 28 comedy music acts from Chicago and across the country. 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. \$10 per

night. Tickets: elboroomlive.com

SUNDAY

The Roast of Darth Vader
Laugh Factory
3175 N. Broadway 773-327-3175

Stay on target and get yourself to the Lakeview theater for the latest Character Assassination featuring Darth Vader in the hot seat. Comedians Andy Fleming, Danny Maupin and Tyler Jackson will play notable characters such as Yoda, Leia and more to do the deed. 9 p.m. \$17-\$20 with a two-drink minimum per person. Tickets: laughfactory.com

WEDNESDAY

Huggable Riot: Claus & Effect
The Annoyance Theatre
851 W. Belmont Ave. 773-697-9693

Get in the spirit with Huggable Riot cast members as they explore holiday joys such as divulging personal insecurities at the Thanksgiving table, Jay Cutler fulfilling a Christmas wish and more. 9:30 p.m. \$10-\$12. Tickets: theannoyance.com

Want to see your show in Set the Scene? Us too! Send details to Morgan Olsen at mcolsen@redeyechicago.com for consideration.

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53183B, \$3,477



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15471B, \$3,477



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P19846A, \$3,977



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53783B, \$3,977



2007 FORD EXPEDITION XLT
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53810A, \$3,977



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TAN-V6-LOADED
P20090A, \$4,977



2007 PONTIAC G6
RED-LEATHER-ROOF-V6
53837A, \$5,977



2007 SUZUKI XL7
GOLD-V6-LUXURY-AWD-LEATHER
53697A, \$6,977



2005 VW TOUAREG
BLACK-NAVI-LEATHER-ROOF
53957A, \$7,977



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WHITE-POWER-4CYL
15554A, \$7,977



2011 FORD FIESTA
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15531A, \$7,977



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P19877A, \$8,977



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tv

Lady Gaga as Elizabeth in
'American Horror Story: Hotel'

STOP PORTRAYING BISEXUALS AS VILLAINS

MANY BISEXUAL TV CHARACTERS
LACK MORALITY, FIDELITY

By Zachary Zane | FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

In the season premiere of "American Horror Story: Hotel" Elizabeth's (Lady Gaga) bisexuality is revealed when she and Donovan (Matt Bomer) seduce a heterosexual couple. The steamy foursome quickly turns dark and gory; after the encounter, Elizabeth and Donovan slit the throats of their sexual partners, drinking their blood.

Sleeping with both men and women to gain power, Elizabeth is depicted as the villain of the Hotel Cortez. She was duplicitous, selfish and evil. She also was bisexual. This is not a coincidence.

On television, the trope of the evil bisexual isn't new. Last year, GLAAD's annual report on the state of minorities revealed that bisexuals are often one-dimensional characters, typecast as villains. The report said bisexual characters are "depicted as untrustworthy, prone to infidelity, and/or lacking a sense of morality." The 2016 edition of GLAAD's report said this was "one trope specifically that GLAAD continued to see over and over again."

Many bisexual TV characters lack a moral compass. They exploit their own sexuality as a means to get ahead. They're also unabashedly shameless in their actions, never having an ounce of remorse. It is as if, for these characters, sexual fluidity equals moral fluidity. In this regard, sexuality is not seen as an identity, but rather as a personality trait.

This was true for other bisexual characters, including Felicity from Shonda Rhimes' newest drama, "The Catch." Felicity, a bisexual woman of color, was secretive and untruthful about sleeping with her female partner, Margot, and with Margot's brother. When Margot discovered the truth, she confronted Felicity, but Felicity wasn't shaken, apparently unable to see any reason Margot might be upset.

And of course, this was also true for Frank Underwood from "House of Cards." Interestingly, Frank's bisexuality doesn't further the plot; it is not a defining aspect of Frank's identity. The showrunner, Beau Willimon, rejected labeling Frank as bisexual, instead saying, "He's a man with a large appetite, he's a

man who does not allow himself to be placed in any sort of milieu or with one definition." Frank's bisexuality, therefore, is just one part of his overall lack of a moral code. He's a man who has no problem murdering, bribing, betraying—and sleeping with anyone—to obtain power. It was as if his voracious thirst for power somehow related to his sexual fluidity.

There's a dearth of bisexual representation in mainstream media. As of 2016, only 30 percent (83 of the 278) of recurring LGBT characters on scripted broadcast, cable and streaming programming are bisexual. Even though this is up 2 percentage points from last year, this proportion still underrepresents the bisexual community. Data from a 2013 Pew Research Center report reveal that bisexuals compose the majority of the LGBT community, at 40 percent.

When there are relatively few depictions of bisexuals, the representation and integrity of each bisexual character holds more weight. There are real consequences to depicting bisexuality as moral fluidity. It perpetuates

negative stereotypes about bisexuals.

Despite the inaccurate and immoral depictions of bisexuals this past year, there was one show that depicted bisexuality realistically and positively. Darryl Whitefeather (Pete Gardner), from CW's musical comedy "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend," came out in an informative song, "Getting Bi."

In the song, Gardner's character pushed back against the notion that bisexuals are actually closeted gay individuals, who are confused, indecisive and promiscuous. He sang: "Being bi does not imply you're a player or a slut." Not only was his bisexuality critical to his identity and growth as a character, it also had nothing to do with his morality. He was like any other good man, who also happened to be bisexual.

More show creators need to follow this example. Portray bisexuals as normal people—people you see in the grocery store—not just power-hungry, unethical, cheating liars. Sexual fluidity and moral fluidity are two entirely different things.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆



WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

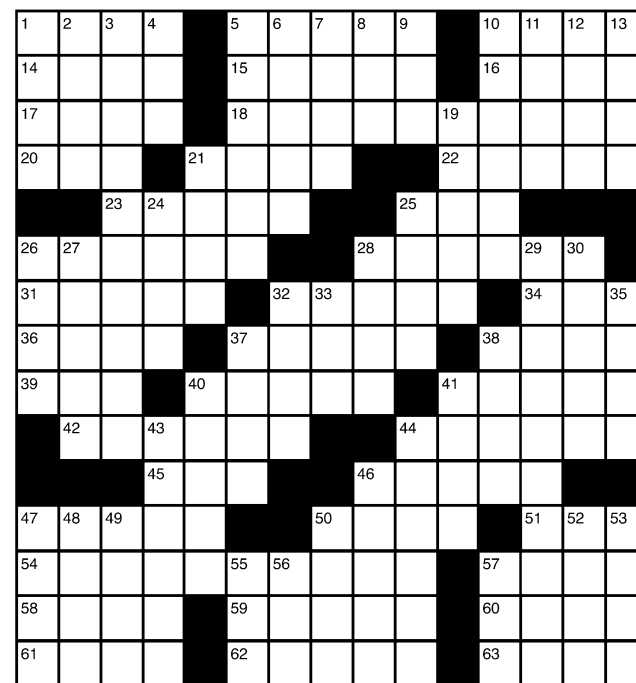


ACROSS

- 1 Man or boy
- 5 crow flies; in a straight line
- 10 Part of the foot
- 14 Smell
- 15 Oahu feasts
- 16 Actor Christian
- 17 Ivan IV or Feodor I
- 18 Walker
- 20 Barbie's beau
- 21 Fathers
- 22 onto; grips
- 23 Nutmeg or cinnamon
- 25 Actress Arthur
- 26 African desert
- 28 Filthy
- 31 Proverb
- 32 Hopi or Osage
- 34 Singer Rawls
- 36 VP Al
- 37 Nursery beds
- 38 Sandwiches, for short
- 39 Actress Joan Van
- 40 Merchandise
- 41 Multi-room hotel booking
- 42 Chaperone
- 44 One who dies for his beliefs
- 45 Youth
- 46 Augusta's state
- 47 Christmas song
- 50 Locate
- 51 Record speed letters
- 54 Modest
- 57 "How you!"; cry of outrage
- 58 Monotonous speaker
- 59 Hippie's greeting
- 60 "How Sweet to Be Loved by You"; Marvin Gaye album
- 61 Chopping tools
- 62 Change a bit
- 63 Jewels

DOWN

- 1 Make fun of
- 2 Shaping tool
- 3 Usurers
- 4 Go wrong
- 5 Llama's cousin
- 6 Napped leather
- 7 Small amounts
- 8 Color



- 9 19th letter
- 10 Overseas
- 11 Banister
- 12 in; wearing
- 13 Mothers of chicks
- 19 "Hang in "; words of encouragement
- 21 Very urgent
- 24 Summon with a beeper
- 25 Keeps going up and down
- 26 Long narrative
- 27 Think highly of
- 28 Bro and sis
- 29 Unable to read and write
- 30 Amusingly eccentric
- 32 Horse's gait
- 33 of; free from
- 35 name; web site entry
- 37 Drape puller
- 38 Scorch
- 40 Hockey scores
- 41 Uttered
- 43 Shuts
- 44 "Away in a "
- 46 Chop finely
- 47 Castro's land
- 48 As strong as
- 49 Seldom seen
- 50 Italian car
- 52 Overly proper
- 53 Clutter
- 55 "Lazy River"
- 56 Singer Tillis
- 57 Use a shovel

TODAY IN THE YEAR ...

1955: Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, was arrested after refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. The incident sparked a yearlong boycott of the buses by black people.

1965: An airlift of refugees from Cuba to the United States began in which thousands of Cubans were allowed to leave their homeland.

1990: British and French workers digging the Channel Tunnel between their countries finally met after knocking out a passage in a service tunnel.

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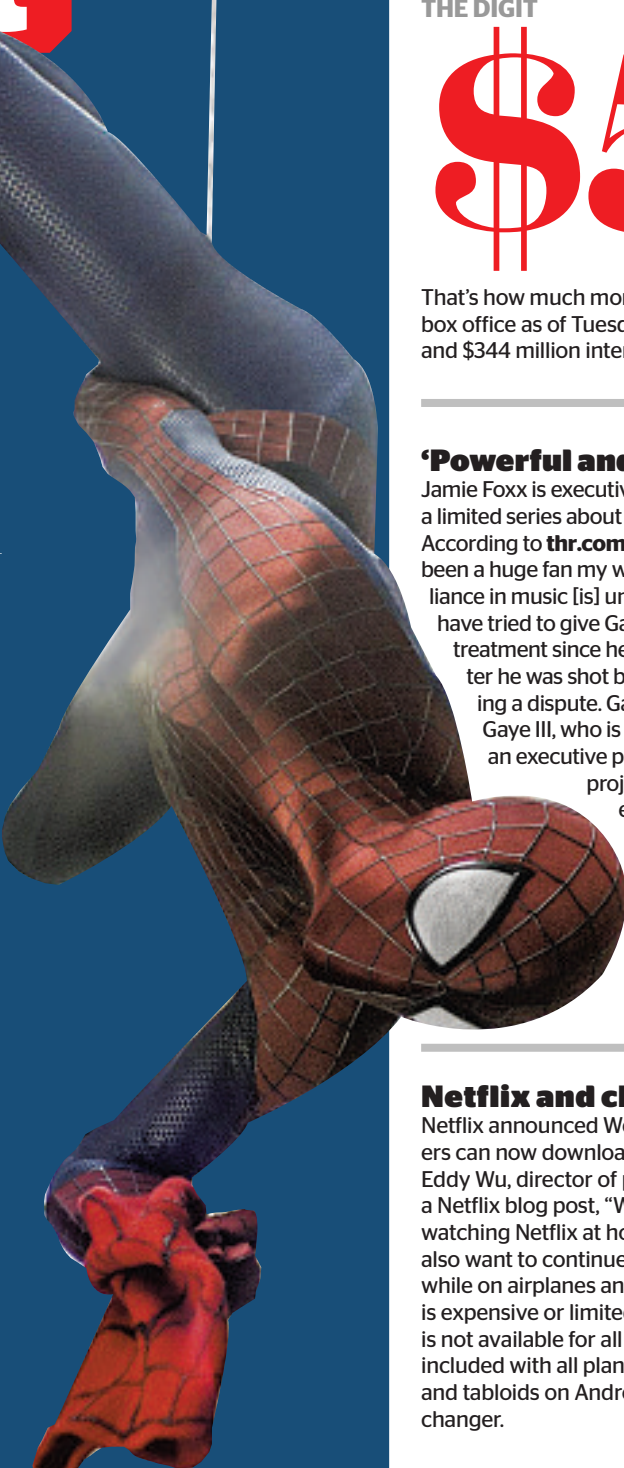


red hot

THE QUOTE

“I SIGNED UP TO SERVE THE STORY, AND TO SERVE THIS INCREDIBLE CHARACTER THAT I’VE BEEN DRESSING AS SINCE I WAS THREE, AND THEN IT GETS COMPROMISED AND IT BREAKS YOUR HEART. I GOT HEARTBROKEN A LITTLE BIT TO A CERTAIN DEGREE.”

—Andrew Garfield, talking to Amy Adams during Variety’s “Actors on Actors,” about his experience playing Spider-Man.



THE DIGIT

\$505M

That’s how much money “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” had made at the worldwide box office as of Tuesday. Deadline reports that the movie had earned \$161 million domestically and \$344 million internationally, and box office analysts predict it will top out at \$750-\$775 million.

‘Powerful and definitive’

Jamie Foxx is executive-producing a limited series about Marvin Gaye. According to [thr.com](#), Foxx said, “I’ve been a huge fan my whole life. His brilliance in music [is] unparalleled.” Many have tried to give Gaye’s life the biopic treatment since he died at age 44 after he was shot by his father following a dispute. Gaye’s son Marvin Gaye III, who is also on board as an executive producer, said, “This project will be a powerful and definitive telling of Marvin Gaye’s life story.” There’s not yet a release date or other information about the series.



Four and done

Showtime has canceled its period drama “[Masters of Sex](#)” after four seasons. According to [deadline.com](#), Showtime declined to comment, but apparently the network felt the Season 4 finale was a fitting conclusion to the story. Deadline reports that the show had modest ratings, averaging less than 800,000 viewers (counting live views and three days of DVR playback).

Netflix and chill without Wi-Fi

Netflix announced Wednesday that its subscribers can now download content for offline viewing. Eddy Wu, director of product innovation, wrote in a Netflix blog post, “While many members enjoy watching Netflix at home, we’ve often heard they also want to continue their ‘Stranger Things’ binge while on airplanes and other places where internet is expensive or limited.” Netflix says the feature is not available for all programs just yet, but it is included with all plans and available for phones and tablets on Android and iOS. This is a game changer.



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